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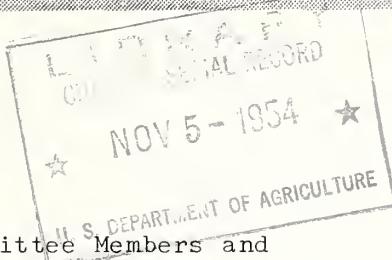


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# Newsletter

GRADUATE SCHOOL ★ USDA



October 29, 1954

To the Faculty, Committee Members and others associated with the Graduate School:

The enclosed folder giving general information about GS is being mailed to contact people in all of the agencies that cooperate with the School. In addition we have also recently published an abridgement of the information in the catalog for use in answering queries of a general nature about GS.

GS enrollment this semester is 15 percent above that of last fall. A preliminary report by Registrar Louise Sullivan shows that more than 2800 students are enrolled in 161 courses.

A considerable part of the increase comes from an evening program inaugurated this year at the National Institutes of Health where some 300 students are now enrolled in 17 courses.

The increase in registrations from the U. S. Department of Agriculture was 20.8% above that of the fall semester last year.

Biggest gain -- 73 percent -- is in the Department of Biological Sciences. Biggest decrease -- 17 percent -- is in the Department of Physical Sciences where small enrollment made it necessary to cancel 17 courses. This year's registration also shows a decrease -- 13 percent -- in the Department of Social Sciences.

Next month GS begins the faculty-committee luncheons that are planned to give those of us associated with the School an opportunity to meet informally and hear outstanding educators.

Our first guest speaker on Tuesday, November 2, will be Dr. Arthur Adams, President of the American Council on Education. On Tuesday, December 7, we will hear Dr. Cloyd Heck Marvin of George Washington University. Other college presidents and leaders in the field of education have been invited to speak in the early months of 1955.

Dr. Arthur Adams served as provost of Cornell University and President of the University of New Hampshire before becoming president of the American Council on Education. He was president of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in 1950.

We have reserved a large room in South Building of Agriculture, Room 6962, for these luncheons and we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Viewing U. S. farm policy in the light of world conditions, Homer Brinkley of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives set the stage, October 6, for a GS lecture series that holds many lively topics for discussion.

Dr. Brinkley's talk was concerned with "what we need to do in order to permanently expand our agricultural markets, develop potential markets, and keep agricultural as an equitable factor in the kind of dynamic and expanding economy on which the future of this country and the rest of the world rests."

The time is ripe, he said, for aggressive movement in many directions. Among positive steps the United States can take are: the adoption of greater export sales and promotion programs by agriculture to make it possible for farm products to compete with automobiles and other consumer goods; the widest use of credit facilities, including those of the Export-Import Bank; increased attention to competitive pricing; improved methods to assure high quality in agricultural commodities when they reach foreign markets; research on market preferences for farm products in other lands; and real efforts to raise the level of the economy of other nations closer to ours.

The success of these efforts will depend on the investment of private capital and the export of management and production know-how to underdeveloped areas of the world. He suggests the formation of a Foreign Economic Board as a proper vehicle for a sound and broadly comprehensive approach to our foreign economic problems.

In the second lecture of the series, October 20, Dr. H. B. Price, professor of economics at the University of Kentucky, spoke in the place of Dean Welch who was unable to come to Washington.

Long-time teacher, Dr. Price is well known to USDA economists, many of whom studied under him at the University of Minnesota or at Kentucky.

His approach to the question of farming adjustments was thorough and scholarly. His thesis was that the aggregate demand for farm products is highly inelastic. Long-term changes are brought about by growth and mobility of population and changes in taste. To a limited extent short term changes can be made through programs that provide for storage, price support, acreage allotments, marketing quotas, and diverted acres.

The important thing in planning policy for adjustments, in Dr. Price's opinion, is to choose a program that is less than complete, that leaves some freedom of choice for the farmer and that provides a margin of error so there will be adequate food in case of unforeseen increases in population or other calls for foods now in surplus.

Just as a reminder, here are the dates, topics, and speakers for the remainder of the series:

November 3 - "Developing Domestic Markets", A. C. Hoffman, Vice President, Kraft Foods Company

November 17- "Providing Research and Education", Clifford M. Hardin Chancellor, University of Nebraska

November 24- "Assisting Low-Income Farmers", Erven Long, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Tennessee

December 1 - "Farm Policy in Relation to General Economic Policy" J. Kenneth Galbraith, Department of Economics, Harvard University

December 8 - "A Political Scientist's Analysis of Issues in Agriculture" Charles M. Hardin. Department of Political Science. University of Chicago

Since teaching in GS is only a part time job, the instructor who writes his own textbook is the exception rather than the rule. But our record over the past 33 years shows that a number of GS instructors have prepared their own textbooks. Most recent is Walter Hendricks who teaches Introduction to Experimental Statistics. When he was unable to find the material he needed and wanted for this course, he selected and compiled his own. GS arranged for having it mimeographed and the 251 page text has been sold in the GS Bookstore the past two years. In that time we have had orders for the book from several universities in this country and abroad.

It's always heartening to hear that a student was rewarded for putting what he learned into practice. Most recent GS student to be so honored is Martin H. Miller, whose entry into the annual newspaper snapshot contest brought him an award of \$1,000.

The prize-winning photograph of a Marine officer saluting the flag and his son beside him giving the Boy Scout salute is on display with other winning pictures in an exhibition at the National Geographic Society.

Mr. Miller, who is promotion director for the payroll savings plan at the U. S. Treasury, has taken courses in photography at GS since 1952. Last year he did advanced work in the classes taught by Elbridge Purdy and was elected president of the GS Roundtable on Portrait Photography.

What kind of continuing education and training is needed for the growth and increase in efficiency of Federal employees?

While training programs have been organized both by Federal agencies and by private institutions, no comprehensive study has been made of training needs and interests.

At a recent meeting the General Administration Board authorized me to discuss a study of this type with appropriate officials in the Civil Service Commission, the Office of Education, the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities, the American Council on Education and the American

Association of Colleges. We have begun to explore the question and will be reporting our findings and discussing their implications in future issues of the Newsletter.

Evening classes draw couples. I noticed during registration a number of couples, man and wife, or girls who room together enrolled either for the same courses or for courses that met on the same evening.

Eighteen interns, participants in various agency administrative intern programs, registered at GS this semester as scholarship holders. Eight are from the Civil Service Commission, six from Interior, two from REA, one from Navy and one from the Air Force.

#### NAMES IN GS NEWS

An official of the Chinese Nationalist Government is enrolled this semester. He is Ta Ching Ho, Chief of the Personnel Division of the Directorate General of Budgets, Accounting, and Statistics, Taiwan. In the United States on an FOA mission, he is enrolled for Financial Organization and Procedures of the Federal Government.

The transfer of the Civilian Defense Administration headquarters to Battle Creek, Michigan, took Virgil Couch, long-time GS faculty and committee member from Washington recently. Mr. Couch had served in two GS Departments, Public Administration and Office Techniques and Operations, since 1946.

Sincerely,

  
Director